

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PA-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DHA-02 IO-13 SCS-03 SCA-01 /072 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

INFO AVIANO IMMEDIATE

SECDEF IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

JCS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 128904

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SWEL, IT

SUBJ: EARTHQUAKE RELIEF -- SUPPORT FROM U.S. MILITARY
ELEMENTS

REF: USCINCEUR DTG 251736Z MAY 76

1. THE REFERENCED TELEGRAM FROM CINCEUR (BEING REPEATED
TO ROME) RECOMMENDS THAT THE PARTICIPATION OF U.S.
MILITARY ENGINEERS IN DISASTER RELIEF BE PHASED OUT
CONCURRENTLY WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL AID-
STATE REHABILITATION TEAM IN UDINE. CINCEUR ASSUMES
THE TEAM WILL START OPERATING IN UDINE MAY 29. CINCEUR
REQUESTS THAT THE 40TH TAC ENGINEERS CEASE RELIEF
OPERATIONS EFFECTIVE MAY 28 AND THAT THE PLATOON OF
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ENGINEERS FROM THE 509 INFANTRY CEASE OPERATIONS SOME

TIME BETWEEN MAY 31 AND JUNE 2.

2. WE GREATLY APPRECIATE THE ASSISTANCE FROM THE MILITARY ENGINEERS WHICH HAS BEEN OUTSTANDING. WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT THE ITALIANS MIGHT HAVE SOME CONTINUED USE FOR THIS SPECIAL SUPPORT. ON THE OTHER HAND WE ARE SYMPATHETIC TO CINCEUR'S DESIRES TO HAVE THESE FORCES RETURN TO NORMAL DUTY. FURTHER, THIS TYPE OF U.S. SUPPORT MUST END SOON IN ANY CASE. HOWEVER, JUDGMENT AS TO BEST

TIMING AND MODE FOR WITHDRAWING ENGINEER PARTICIPATION SO AS TO ASSURE ATTAINMENT OF ALL U.S. OBJECTIVES IN ITALY IS BEST MADE IN ITALY.

3. THEREFORE REQUEST YOUR CONCURRENCE WITH CINCEUR PROPOSAL OR SUGGESTIONS FOR ALTERNATIVE PHASE-OUT OF MILITARY ENGINEER RELIEF WORK. SISCO

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